

Health and Social Care Committee report on
First 1000 Days: a renewed focus
RCSLT response – 22 January 2026

The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists welcomes the publication of the House of Commons' Health and Social Care Committee's report, [First 1000 Days: a renewed focus](#), and its findings.

We are pleased that the report references our [written evidence](#) and the [oral evidence](#) given on our behalf by speech and language therapist, Janet Cooper.

We welcome in particular the recommendations that the UK Government should:

- review its current guidance on multidisciplinary teams to ensure that due prominence is given to the role that allied health professional can play in such teams;
- set out how it plans to support those professions in non-NHS settings, particularly allied health professionals and early years practitioners, in a child's health workforce strategy that should accompany the NHS 10 Year Workforce Plan;
- revise its guidance on early language and home learning environment funding to allow it to be used to provide support that covers the 0-2-year period (this section refers to our evidence);
- further expand the network of Family Hubs to provide access to a Hub every community; and
- provide further information on how it will manage potential overlap between Neighbourhood Health Centres and Family Hubs.

We urge the UK Government to commit to action in all these areas in its response to the Committee's report and are grateful to Janet Cooper for her evidence and support.